

Chapter: Nursing Care Services (NC)

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Revised: 12-98

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Section 2: Psychiatric Technician Acuity Pool

Policy

Psychiatric technicians are hired into an acuity pool.

Procedure

1. Applicants are referred to the Utah State Hospital Human Resources Office.
2. The acuity techs complete New Employee Orientation and Psychiatric Technician Training before being assigned to units.
3. The acuity techs are supervised by the Assistant Nursing Administrator and/or designee. He/she is responsible for helping with the acuity tech orientation, assigning them with a working schedule, and for monitoring their performance.
4. The acuity techs may bid on permanent psych tech positions as soon as they have completed the required training and as jobs become available. Acuity techs may be placed on a unit at management's discretion if there are openings that do not receive bids.
5. The twelve-month probationary period starts when a tech is hired by a unit as a permanent employee.

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Section 3: Organization of Nursing Staff on Treatment Units

Policy

The nursing staff on the treatment units of the Utah State Hospital (i.e., registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, psychiatric technicians) are organized in such a manner as to allow for continuity of patient treatment under the direction of the Unit Nursing Directors (UND).

Procedure

1. All licensed practical nurses and psychiatric technicians, including mentors, clerks, and environmentalists, are responsible to the registered nurse assigned to that shift. The registered nurse assigned to the shift has full responsibility under the authority of the UND, unit administrative director, and unit clinical director.
2. All unit nursing service personnel are responsible to the unit supervising registered nurse.
3. The unit psychiatric technicians, mentors, clerks, and environmentalists are assigned job responsibilities by the unit supervising registered nurse.
4. During after hours, the SSRN is responsible for oversight of all hospital functions.

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